

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 222825
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AGRIC, GE

SUBJECT:GRAIN CONSULTATIONS

REFERENCE: (A) BERLIN 7213; (B) BERLIN 7022

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO AMBASSADOR'S CONVERSATION WITH BEIL
(REF A), EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY THE FOLLOWING TO
DR. SCHMIED OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUCH OTHER
OFFICIALS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE.

2. THE USG CONFIRMS ITS INTEREST IN CONTINUATION OF
PERIODIC GRAIN CONSULTATIONS PURSUANT TO THE UNDERSTANDINGS
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CONCERNING GRAIN TRADE BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AS
DEVELOPED IN WASHINGTON IN NOVEMBER 1976. IN ORDER TO
FOLLOW THROUGH WITH THE INTENT EXPRESSED AT THAT TIME FOR
ALTERNATING THE GRAIN CONSULTATIONS PERIODICALLY BETWEEN
WASHINGTON AND BERLIN, USDA WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEND AN
APPROPRIATE DELEGATION TO BERLIN FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF
CONSULTATIONS.

3. SINCE THE APPROACHING CONCLUSION OF THE 1977 GRAIN CROP
OUTTURN SITUATION FOR BOTH COUNTRIES OFFERS A LOGICAL TIME
FOR USEFUL CONSULTATIONS, AND IN LINE WITH SIMILAR SUGGES-
TIONS ON TIMING MADE INFORMALLY BY GDR OFFICIALS IN WASH-

INGTON LAST JUNE, WE WOULD HOPE THAT A SUITABLE DATE MIGHT
BE SOMETIME IN OCTOBER OR EARLY NOVEMBER.

4. TENTATIVE VIEW EXPRESSED BY GDR VISITORS LAST JUNE WAS
THAT WHEN GRAIN CONSULTATIONS NEXT HELD, IT MIGHT BE APPRO-
PRIATE TO CONDUCT THEM AT A STEP LOWER THAN THE NOVEMBER
1976 MEETING WHICH WAS AT ASSISTANT SECRETARY/STATE
SECRETARY LEVEL. THIS WOULD BE AGREEABLE, AND PERHAPS MORE
PRACTICAL FROM STANDPOINT OF ENABLING FUTURE CONSULTATIONS
TO OCCUR MORE REGULARLY IF THIS SHOULD BE DESIRED. IN ANY
CASE, AT THE TIME WHEN GDR PUTS FORWARD SOME CHOICE OF
POSSIBLE DATES, WE HOPE THEY MIGHT ALSO PLEASE INDICATE
WHO WOULD BE LIKELY GDR SPOKESMAN.

5. FINALLY, AS HAS ALREADY BEEN CONVEYED TO GDR WE REGRET
THAT IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE FOR DR. BEIL AND USDA COUNTERPART
TO MEET ON THE OCCASION OF THE FORMER'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON
LAST JUNE, BUT WE LOOK FORWARD TO ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY TO
CONTINUE VALUABLE CONTACT AT HIS LEVEL WHENEVER FUTURE
OCCASIONS ARISE. IN THE MEANTIME WE LOOK FORWARD TO
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CONTINUATION OF UNDERSTANDINGS AND CONSULTATIONS ON GRAIN.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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